



FCA NEWSLETTER

www.fcacalgary.ca

SEPTEMBER 2004

"Painting is easy for those that do not know how, but very difficult for those that do!" Edgar Degas

Behind the Easel, Jury on the Edge - Robert Genn

Coming Events

- *Program for September - Laura Pope, A Watercolour Slide Presentation.*
- *September General Meeting Crescent Heights Community Centre, September 16, 2004*
- *Autumn Colours Exhibition, Crescent Heights, Sunday, October 17, 2004.*
- *Winter Frost Exhibition, Strathcona Christie, December 4, 2004.*
- *Winter Thaw Exhibition, Lake Bonavista Village, February 19, 2005.*
- *Art Fusion - A Collaboration of Canadian Artists - May 6 to 13, 2005.*

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Recently I was asked to be on the FCA jury for the second annual "Painting on the Edge" show in Vancouver. All of the entries, 777 of them, had been previously juried by slide by a single outsider juror. The selected show of 55 paintings was now hung and five of us had to decide which were to be in the money. There were cash prizes ranging from \$1500 to \$250, as well as several prizes in kind of \$1000. For a while we wandered silently around with our clipboards and made a tentative list of our favorites. After that we chatted about the works, variously picking holes in and singing the praises of some of them. Everyone had a say. Though there was a wide range of juror disciplines and tendencies, there was remarkable consensus.

I'm always interested in what jurors are thinking and saying. While some jurors in some situations tend to be blindsided by their education, and consequently speak a bit of nonsense, it seems to me that justice often prevails. The old conflicts between the various camps of art--modern versus traditional--simply don't exist in what I call "evolved" juries. All flags can now safely fly.

These days I'm noticing that

juror's eyes are attracted to casualness. Work that is overly stiff, no matter how well rendered, is passed by for works that have a more relaxed and easy-going delivery. This observation goes for abstract and realistic works, landscapes and mindbenders alike. Art with some bravura, that makes art look easy, gets the bucks. Fact is that people who paint well, generally with a few acres of canvas behind them, tend to be casual. In the "Edge" show, an understated, abstracted figure-study of limited range and shallow virtuosity attracted votes because of its casual simplicity. It aimed low and hit the mark. Other, more ambitious works, on closer examination, revealed too many flaws.

Time and again artists ask me what it is that jurors are looking for. I can't speak for all our excellent jurors, but these days I've noticed that often, just as "rock breaks scissors and scissors cuts paper," composition beats colour and colour beats drawing. Unusual treatments of standard subjects will generally turn heads. Boring is still boring and out of style in all genres. But raw talent

and razzle-dazzle still bamboozles jurors.

We all agreed that Ed Lantin's "The Vegetable Vendors," a 36" x 48" oil of sunlight and shadow was our top choice. It contained intervening dust and atmosphere, translucency, reflected light, counter-light, multiple figures in animated activity, even aerial perspective. Cruising up close, our eyes glazed with admiration, my fellow jurors and I caught ourselves saying that it was "casual."



"Perform with elan, brilliance and dash." (Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi) "Don't show me that what you are doing is difficult." (Pierre Parisien) *Robert Genn writes an informative twice-weekly email letter that goes out to artists all over the world. You can find out about it at www.painterskeys.com It's free.*

FCA Executive - 2004/2005

Position	Name	Phone	E-Mail Address
President	Natalie Kurzuk	(403) 254-6697	nakurzuk@telusplanet.net
1 st Vice President	Lorna Hannett	(403) 637-2454	lorna12@telusplanet.net
2 nd Vice President	Marg Stevens	(403) 932-6383	stevenss@telusplanet.net
Secretary	Karen Aulik-Now	(403) 277-1586	mtnpopt@telusplanet.net
Treasurer	Kathleen McCombie	(403) 288-4783	kmmccombie@yahoo.ca
Past President	Neil Locke	(403) 277-0561	nblocke@shaw.ca

Jury Guidelines & Categories - September 16, 2004

Jurying – Calgary Chapter

Jury forms are available on our website at www.fcacalgary.ca, **please have forms filled out prior to registering your paintings for jury.**

The Jury is Thursday, September 16, 2004 at Crescent Heights, 1101 - 2nd Street N.W. Drop Off time is 6:30 p.m. sharp. Jury fee: \$10.00

A member must have "Active" status before submitting pieces for a jury into a show. A member can submit three images to a Jury.

Pieces previously submitted can be resubmitted if they were not accepted as "Juror's Choice" paintings. All Calgary Chapter Shows are juried.

Paintings may only hang once in a FCA juried show at the same location.

Paintings that have hung in a Chapter Show, either as a Chapter's Choice or a Juror's Choice may subsequently be submitted to an FCA juried show at the Federation Gallery.

If a painting is accepted in two FCA shows, it will only count once towards application for Signature Status. You require eight different works at eight different shows.

Chapter Choice: Are pieces considered to be of a high standard and quality that are acceptable to be shown in a Chapter Show but are not eligible for "juror's choice" and do not work towards "Signature Status".

Juror's Choice: Are pieces considered to be of a higher standard and quality and are acceptable to be shown in a National Show, allows

members to work towards "Signature Status".

Members must have eight "Juror's Choice" over a four year period to apply for AFCA Status.

A member can only count one "Juror's Choice" per show towards their signature status.

This is considered the stepping-stone to signature status and is harder to attain. It ensures artists applying for signature status are meeting the qualifications necessary to be accepted for "Signature" status.

Best of Show: Is "juror's" choice but is considered to be the "best" of show and works towards "Signature Status".

Good Luck to Everyone

"Autumn Colours" Crescent Heights Exhibition - October 17, 2004



Crescent Heights Community Centre

1101 - 2nd Street N.W.

Jury: Thursday, September 16, 2004 (at Crescent Heights)

Door Prize: Members are asked to bring a painting valued at over \$200.00 to the meeting on September 16th (members will select one for the door prize).

This is a Qualifying Show

President's Message - Natalie Kurzuk

I trust that the summer has been nourishing for each of you, and that you'll come back refreshed and enthusiastic in helping to keep the FCA Calgary Chapter a vital and exciting organization.

This year we are focusing on raising the awareness of the FCA Calgary Chapter and are looking forward to receiving your input on innovative ways to accomplish this. We are proud to be hosting the FCA exhibition, *Art Fusion*, in Calgary in May. This show is open to all FCA members from across Canada, so let's show them our stuff! Please add your names to the list of volunteers, as your contributions are what make the FCA function so well. My hope is that the benefits to you will outweigh the time and energy that you contribute.

Another of our goals is to try to develop healthier operating expenses and to cut

costs without affecting the success of our art shows. I'd like to remind you that at our last meeting, we voted to raise the commission for your painting sales at the Calgary Chapter shows from 25% to 30%, starting in October.

With such a whirlwind of activities at our upcoming September 16th meeting at Crescent Heights Community Centre, we will certainly be starting the year off with a BANG! Besides the regular meeting, starting at 7 pm, this is also the jury night for our fall show, *Autumn Colours*. Please remember to bring a painting for the door prize selection.

We are also looking forward to the former ACAD instructor and professional artist, Laura Pope's, exciting watercolour slide presentation. I'd like to thank Lois Fisch for doing such a great job in organizing our programs for the year.

On behalf of our members, I'd like to

thank Marg Stevens for continuing to produce a very professional and informative newsletter. During the last week of each month, please remember to send Marg information concerning your shows, awards, opportunities and other newsworthy items.

Also, a big thank you goes out to our web-master, Jim Graham, who continually wows us with his website design skills.

I'm looking forward to a super turnout at our September meeting, as we restart the FCA engine and ready ourselves to share our joys and successes, and to face the challenges of the upcoming year together. I leave you to ponder this little quote:

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us". - Ralph Waldo Emerson

General Meeting Minutes - June 15, 2004

Meeting called by: Natalie Kurzuk

Notes taken by: Neil Locke

Attendees: 21

Minutes – errors or omissions?

Motion to accept: Kathleen McCombie. Seconded by: Diane Knight

President's Comments and Announcements:

Members were welcomed to the last FCA meeting at Lakeview Community Centre. Meetings will start at Crescent Heights Community Centre on Thursday, September 16th, 2004.

The executive identified several goals for the year 2004-2005 (we welcome your suggestions)

To raise the awareness of the FCA Calgary Chapter:

- National Show in May
- Banner for our FCA shows – research needed
- Float at the Calgary Stampede (Thinking Big!)
- New bookmarks advertising our upcoming shows

Getting our finances in order and perhaps end a year with a profit:

- Sell 200 tickets for \$1.00 each at our shows

- Modifying the structure of Membership dues

Treasurer's Report – Kathleen McCombie:

Kathleen submitted the Treasurer's Report and fielded questions with regard to our current balance

Programs – Lois Fisch: For upcoming programs refer to the upcoming newsletter.

"Art Fusion" National FCA Art Show – Marg Stevens:

The tentative jury date for the show next year is February 5, 2005. As a fundraiser, pins will be available to all members. A note to artists participating: all paintings not sold in Calgary will be eligible to exhibit in the FCA Gallery in Vancouver.

Newsletter – Marg Stevens: The newsletter has been well presented. Artists are encouraged to send in upcoming opportunities.

Exhibitions – Lillian Tkach-Matisons: Upcoming exhibitions are as follows:

Autumn Colours at Crescent Heights Community Centre, Sunday, October 17th, 2004. This is a Qualifying show. Jury Night is the same night as meeting, Thursday, September 16th, with a Door Prize

painting being selected that same evening.

Winter Frost at Strathcona-Christie Community Centre, Dec. 4th, 2004. Jury night is November 18th, 2005. This is a Non-Qualifying show.

Lake Bonavista Village, February 19th, 2005. Jury night is January 20th, 2005.

Volunteers: Volunteers are required for the following positions:

Digital Photos backup for Lorna Hannett

Social Committee: Eveline and Jonathan need at least one more helper.

Workshops are cancelled for now as there is no volunteer to take it on.

Membership: Rosemary Bennett / Natalie:

As of June 15, 2004 there are 5 supporting, 81 active, 20 signature members, and 1 new member. The idea was presented that Calgary signature members resume paying membership fees.

Adjourn: Motioned by: Kathleen McCombie. Seconded by: Lillian Tkach-Matisons

Program: George Alik – Watercolour Demonstration

Program - Laura Pope a Watercolour Slide Presentation

Lois Fisch, Program Coordinator

Laura Pope, will present a watercolor slide presentation and talk about her art journey. She is a professional artist who has

worked in Calgary for twenty-four years producing graphic design, illustration, commissioned murals and paintings. She is extensively experienced in fine art, commercial art and design.

Laura's education varies; she has her BFA from Alberta College of Art and Design, the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, and the Banff Centre. She taught studio classes at ACAD from 1983 – 2003

Dorothy Barraclough

It is with deepest sorrow that we announce Dorothy Barraclough's passing on August 14, 2004. Dorothy was a painter for 35 years and an active member of

the Federation of Canadian Artists for over 20 years. We will miss her magnetic personality and her smiling face at our meetings and art shows.

Our condolences go out to her family and close friends.



1921-2004

News - Notices - Opportunities

The Calgary Chapter

is proud to host an exhibition to celebrate Alberta's 100th Anniversary

Art Fusion

a collaboration of Canadian artists

This exhibit will be on display at both

Gainsborough Galleries

441 5th Avenue SW, Calgary, AB
May 6th—13th, 2005

Reception and Awards Ceremony:
May 6th, 2005

&

Federation Gallery

1241 Cartwright Street, Vancouver, BC
May 24th—June 5th, 2005

Entry deadline: February 5, 2005.

Entry fee: \$20/image.

Submit completed entry packet to:

Federation Gallery

1241 Cartwright Street, Vancouver, BC
V6H 4B7

For more information, contact Marg
Stevens (403) 932-6383 or email at
stevenss@telusplanet.net.

The *Art Fusion* entry form is available at
www.artists.ca

Click on *FCA Events*

Karin Richter CSPWC, SCA, ASA is leading a painting workshop to the Loire Valley in France May 29 to June 11, 2005. Please contact her at karinrichter@shaw.ca or 272-1471 for more detailed information.

Natalie Kurzuk is showing her new teabag art pieces in the second annual show, "Tea, Glorious Tea", at the Revolution Gallery, in Kingston Jamaica, August 27th - September 24, 2004 (No, she will not accompany her paintings this year).

Natalie has also had two sculptures accepted into the "Body Ornament West Show" at the Triangle Gallery in Calgary, September 16 - October 31, 2004. After this date, the show will travel to the Alberta Craft Council in Edmonton.

Lorna Hannett's scratch piece "Zebra" was chosen as a finalist in The Artist's Magazine Annual Art Competition.

**FCA Programs:2004/2005 -
Program Coordinator: Lois Fisch**

- **Thursday, October 21, 2004,
(Critique night)** Katherine

Ylitalo, independent curator, art consultant, writer and instructor will critique our work on this night.

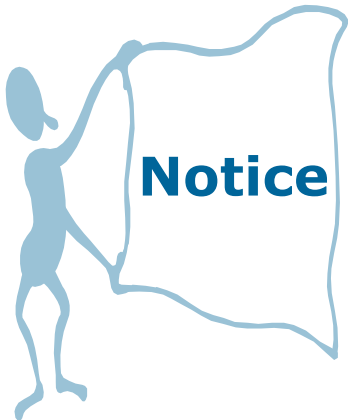
- **Thursday, November 18, 2004 (Jury night)** Jury night and Christmas Social.
- **Thursday, January 20, 2005 (Jury night)** TBA - Critique or slide presentation.

Jeanne Stangeland will be exhibiting under the title of 'Visual Reality, the Figure' along with fellow artist Susanne Gies at the Artview Exposition Gallery at Artspace, 1235-26th Avenue S. E. 2nd level: from September 3rd to September 29th. Opening reception is on Friday September 10th from 5-9 pm. Gallery hours are: Fridays 4-9pm, Sat. & Sun. 10 am to 5 pm.

On September 18th, Jeanne Stangeland will join her colleague, Susanne Gies, at The Point of Art Gallery and demonstrate figurative painting and sketching for Artwalk 2004. For further information please contact Jeanne at 281 8256.



NOTE: Starting Sept. 16, 2004 Our Meetings Have Moved



*Starting September 16, 2004 the
General Meetings have moved to:
Crescent Heights Community Centre*

1101 - 2nd Street N.W.

*The meetings will be the third **Thursday** of each Month.*

PLEASE NOTE THIS IN YOUR CALENDAR

FCA Newsletter - Calgary Chapter

FCA - Calgary Chapter Newsletter. The Federation of Canadian Artists (FCA) is a not for profit organization dedicated to its aim of gradually raising the artists' standards by stimulating participants to greater heights of achievement.

The FCA - Calgary Chapter Newsletter is produced nine (9) times a year. We do not publish July, August or December. The deadline for submission to the newsletter is

five week days after the end of the month

We're looking for members profiles/biographies to publish in upcoming issues of the newsletter. If you are interested please submit your bio and picture to Marg Stevens at stevenss@telusplanet.net or phone (403) 932-6383.

The Newsletter provides information on persons, places and events of importance,

as well as technical information.

Advertise in the Newsletter to reach a premier audience of artists, rates are very reasonable:

Full Page	6 x 7.5	\$110.00
1/2 Page	3.5 x 6	\$60.00
1/4 Page	3.7 x 2.8	\$35.00
1/8 Page	2 x 2.8	\$20.00